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CLASSIFICATION <u>SECRET</u>			
COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>	REPORT <u></u>		
OFIC <u>Puetnitz Airfield</u>			
25X1 EVALUATION <u></u>	PLACE OBTAINED <u></u>	25X1	
25X1 DATE OF CONTENT <u></u>	DATE PREPARED <u>23 September 1953</u>		
REFERENCES <u></u>			
PAGES <u>2</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) <u>1 - sketch on ditto</u>		
REMARKS <u></u>			
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1. Air activity observed at Puetnitz airfield between 19 July and 21 August 1953 included:

19 July through 21 August.

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12 to 19 MiG-15s parked in the northeastern corner and 6 to 12 MiG-15s on the southern edge of the installation.

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all five hangars along the western border of the field housed aircraft. Air activity at the installation appeared to be heavier than previously.

22 July. From mid-night to 6 a.m., there was air activity by MiG-15s. Searchlights were in operation.

3 August. Between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m., a total of 40 MiG-15s landed. The first 3 formations of 8 aircraft arrived, while the remainder approached in formations of 6 and 4. the aircraft belonged to a unit which had newly arrived at the airfield.¹

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8 August. MiG-15s circled at a high altitude over the neck of land between the Baltic Sea and Sealer Bodden. These MiGs dived, individually, at a great speed and with a loud roar to an altitude of 400 to 300 meters, whereupon 3 to 4 detonations from bombs or aircraft weapons were heard. Ground targets were marked by cloth panels and were about 200 meters apart. No smoke trails were seen in connection with these detonations, some of which occurred at great distances from the targets. While these dives were being practiced, a MiG-15, which towed a sleeve target, flew circles over the Bodden at an altitude of about 2,500 meters. The reports of firing of aircraft weapons was not heard.²

8 and 16 August. Night flying was conducted. Searchlights were in operation at the eastern exit of the Koerkwitz Estate, near Saal, in the area north of the field, on the eastern shore of the Bodden and near the Tempel Estate.

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Firing by MiG-15s at sleeve targets was also practiced on the two nights. Twice a week, a twin-engine transport aircraft, probably a Li-2, would land at the field and take-off again after a couple of hours.

2. At 4 p.m. on 3 August, a Diesel locomotive and 15 flatcars, each of them loaded with a crate about 3 meters high, were seen on the spur track of the field near Dangarten railroad station. These crates which took up the entire flatcar were unlettered and their upper sides were covered with tar paper. [redacted] this train moved to the airfield. 4 About 6 p.m. on 18 August, four railroad tank cars arrived at the field.

3. Air force officers and NCOs have been much in evidence in Puetnitz recently. An increasing number of female air force and army soldiers were also seen, besides individual members of the Soviet navy. A local bakery furnished 1,500 kg of bread for the air force every day, 500 kg of bread for an AAA unit every two days, and 150 kg of bread daily for the naval unit stationed at the airfield. The strength of this naval unit was estimated at 100 men. The unit probably operated 3 or 4 Soviet motor launches, each of them 7 or 8 meters long. The motor launches were moored at the quay west of the hangars and were frequently seen at the Bodden.

4. On 3 August, [redacted] 8 x 37-mm AA guns without shields emplaced east of the Dierhagen-Mustrow road. The 2-axle limbers were parked nearby. On 9 August, these guns had disappeared. They were possibly involved in the diving practices made by MiG-15s. [redacted] sketch of the target range near Puetnitz. 2

5. [redacted]

1. [redacted] Comment. In July and August 1953, two fighter regiments and the headquarters of a fighter division were probably stationed at Puetnitz airfield. The presence of more than 40 MiG-15s therefore appears credible. It is not believed that a new unit arrived at the installation on 3 August.

2. [redacted] Comment. It is believed that a firing range is located on the tongue of land between Saaler Bodden and the Baltic Sea. This range is probably used by the fighter regiment stationed at Puetnitz. For sketch of this firing range, see Annex. AAA units stationed in Puetnitz probably also take part in these exercises. The small range appears to be unsuited for bomb release practices; moreover the range is too close to Bad Ribnitz.

3. [redacted] Comment. Air activity conducted at the field followed the pattern of training observed at other airfields occupied by fighter regiments.

4. [redacted] Comment. These crates probably were aircraft crates. However, it cannot be determined whether new aircraft arrived at the installation or whether old crates were shipped out. [redacted]

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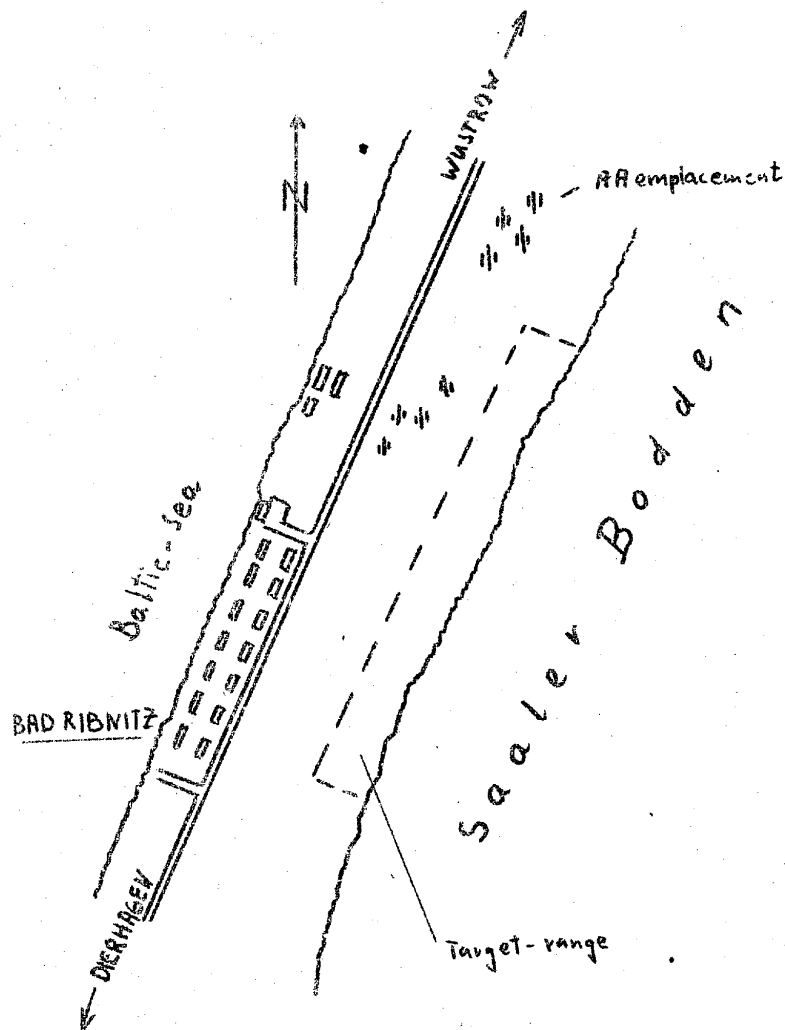
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Annex

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Training Ground for aircraft stationed
at Puetnitz Airfield



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